SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS

Amend the title to read as follows:

--Method For Exchanging Signaling Messages In Two Phases--

Page 1, amend the paragraph following the heading "CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS" as follows:

This application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/179,647 filed June 24, 2002, which was a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/366,207 filed August 4, 1999, which claimed the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/104,878, filed October 20, 1998; and U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/095,288, filed August 4, 1998.

Page 1, amend the paragraph following the heading "BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION" as follows:

The present invention generally relates to network signaling. ~~allocating network resources. More specifically, the present invention relates to reserving and committing network resources based on an authorized quality of service.~~

Page 2, amend the paragraph following the heading "SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION" as follows:

An illustrative embodiment of the invention is a method for use in a network in which a least a first message for establishing a call is routed from a calling party to a called party through one or more network entities and in which at least one subsequent message for establishing the call is routed between the calling party and the called party through fewer than all of the one or more network entities. ~~Network resources for a call between a calling party and a called party are allocated. The network resources for the call are reserved based on a reservation request. The network resources are reserved~~

~~before any one network resource from the reserved network resources is committed. The reserved network resources for the call are committed when a called party indicates acceptance for the call.~~

Amend the paragraph that begins at page 32, line 3 as follows:

This section contains details of the various protocols associated with embodiments of the present invention. This section is substantially identical to the corresponding section of the grandparent U.S. patent application, Serial No. 09/366,207 filed August 4, 1999, now U.S. Patent 6,483,912 issued 11/19/2002, and parent U.S. patent application Serial No. 10/179,647 filed 06/24/2002 which is hereby incorporated by reference. These include the communication between BTI and Gate Controller, between the BTI and Edge Router, between the BTI and other BTIs, between the Gate Controller and Edge Router, between Edge Router and Edge Router, and between Gate Controller and Gate Controller.

Amend the paragraph that begins at page 70, line 2 as follows:

In this section call flows are presented to show the signaling exchange for both basic telephony services as well as many CLASS and Custom Calling features. This section is substantially identical to the corresponding section of the grandparent U.S. patent application, Serial No. 09/366,207 filed August 4, 1999, now U.S. Patent 6,483,912 issued 11/19/2002, and parent U.S. patent application Serial No. 10/179,647 filed 06/24/2002 which is hereby incorporated by reference.

Amend the paragraph that bridges pages 73 and 74 as follows:

- Backbone Resource Reservation – ~~DOSA allows~~ Embodiments of the present invention allow for the possibility of a different backbone resource reservation protocol than that used for the access portion of the network. It is the job of the ER to process the access reservation message and translate it into the proper message sequence for backbone resources. When the ER acknowledges the reservation with an ACK message, it means that the access resources are available for the call and whatever backbone resources this CMTS needed to reserve to support the flow has been reserved. At this point it is safe to begin the ring phase. An example of backbone resource reservation is shown in Section 8.2.2.